

## News Release

February 23, 2005

## FORMER TV METEOROLOGIST GETS A 5 YEAR PRISON SENTENCE

MIAMI- William David Kamal, 48, a meteorologist and longtime South Florida TV personality, was sentenced Friday to five years in federal prison for his role in the attempted solicitation of sex from a minor via the internet. In addition to his prison term, Kamal will be placed on lifetime probation. He pled guilty to the charge Dec. 10, 2004.

The "minor" involved in this scheme was in fact, a police detective posing undercover as a 14-year-old-boy. Using his own Internet account, Kamal exchanged several messages with the undercover detective and in some of the messages, Kamal provided photos of himself.

On Oct. 24, 2004, Kamal drove 90 miles from his Fort Lauderdale home to Fort Pierce to meet with someone he thought was a 14-year-old boy. Kamal was then arrested and charged with Solicitation of Sex with a Minor in violation of Title 18, United States Code Section 2422(b).

"Today's sentencing sends a clear message that ICE will aggressively investigate and arrest those individuals who pose a threat to our children," said Jesus Torres, special agent-in-charge for the ICE, Miami Office of Investigations. "Predators beware, there is no anonymity in cyberspace. ICE will find you and bring you to justice."

In the arrest of Kamal, ICE gratefully acknowledges the support and assistance of the St. Lucie County Sheriff's Office, and other members of the Law Enforcement Against Child Harm Task Force.

ICE encourages the reporting of suspected child predators and any suspicious activity through its toll-free hotline at 1-866-DHS-2ICE. This hotline is staffed around the clock year round. Since the inception of Operation Predator, ICE agents have arrested over 5,000 nationwide.

# ICE #

ICE, the primary investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security, was established to bring a unified focus to the enforcement of U.S. immigration and customs laws, with the principal goal of preventing violations by terrorists and other criminals who threaten the nation's security.

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